

REMARKS

The present Amendment cancels claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 and adds new claims 20-32. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 20-32.

Claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Miyashita (U.S. Patent No. 5,397,883) in view of Sehr (U.S. Patent No. 6,085,976). As indicated above, claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 were canceled. Therefore, this rejection is rendered moot. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

It should be noted that the cancellation of claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 was not intended nor should it be considered as an agreement on Applicants part that the features recited in claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 are taught or suggested by any of the references of record particularly Miyashita and Sehr. The cancellation of claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19 was simply intended to expedite prosecution of the present application.

As indicated above, present Amendment adds new claims 20-32. New claims 20-32 are directed to a ticket examiner for examining a ticket including a ticket slot into which the ticket is entered, a pickup port for ejecting the ticket, a controller, a first antenna covering a long distance service area, a second antenna covering a nearby service area, and a communication module which sends a call to a medium of a user, the communication module stopping calling to the user medium in response to entry of the ticket into the ticket slot.

According to the present invention, in response to detection of the user medium by the communication module through the first antenna, receives information of the ticket from the user medium, request authentication of the ticket information to a center apparatus and generate printing data based on the ticket information in response to a result of the reference that the ticket is valid and stores the printing data in the controller. The controller, in response to detection of the user medium through the second antenna, prints the printing data stored on the controller on a slip using a printer to transport the printed slip to the pickup port.

The above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by any of the references of record whether taken individually or in combination with each other. Particularly, the above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Miyashita or Sehr whether taken individually or in combination with each other as suggested by the Examiner.

Miyashita discloses an automatic ticket examining apparatus (examiner) which is capable of handling both of a magnetic ticket and a wireless ticket.

The ticket examiner defined in claim 20 of this application corresponds to the automatic ticket examiner 10 in Miyashita. A ticket slot and a pickup port (ejector) correspond to Miyashita's ticket slot 14 and ticket outlet 16, respectively. Either one of Applicants' first and second antennas correspond to a radio antenna 98 in Miyashita. Applicants' controller corresponds to Miyashita's controller 41.

Miyashita discloses that when taking in of a magnetic commuter pass 12 into a ticket slot 14 is detected at the magnetic ticket sensing circuit 54 on the basis of the output of the sensor 20 (step S6), a message on a display unit 92 is erased or a message "not accepted" is displayed thereon, thus informing a passenger possessing the magnetic commuter pass of the fact that the radio commuter pass can not be accepted (step S7). However, Miyashita does not disclose to stop calling to the radio commuter pass anywhere.

Therefore, Miyashita does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention wherein the communication module, in response to entry of the ticket into the ticket slot, stops calling to the user medium.

Miyashita discloses one radio antenna 98, but not disclose a plurality of radio antennas of which the covering service areas are different from each other. Thus, Miyashita does not teach or suggest both of the first and second antennas defined in the present invention.

Further, Miyashita does not teach or suggest preparation of printing regarding the radio commuter pass in response to detection of the radio commuter pass through an antenna covering a long-distance service area because plural antennas are absent.

Miyashita discloses storing necessary information on the radio commuter pass and opening a door portion 40 as handling for radio commuter pass. However, Miyashita does not teach or suggest that the automatic gate apparatus prints information on a slip based on the radio commuter pass.

Thus, as is quite clear from the above, the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Miyashita.

The above described deficiencies of Miyashita are not supplied by any of the other references of record. Particularly, the above described features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Sehr. Therefore, combining the teachings of Miyashita and Sehr in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

Sehr discloses a traveling service providing using a multi-application passenger card. Sehr teaches printing data on a slip using a printer in that Sehr describes "the printer allows the passenger to print out hardcopies including paper-based documents, such as travel statements and expense reports". However, Sehr does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in the claims that the communication module stops calling to the user medium in response to entry of the ticket into the ticket slot of the ticket.

Further, Sehr does not teach or suggest the features of the present invention as recited in the claims that the controller, in response to detection of the user medium by the communication module through the first antenna, receives information of the ticket from the user medium, requests authentication of the ticket information to a center apparatus, and generates a printing data based on the ticket information in response to a result of the reference that the ticket is valid, and stores the printing data in the controller as well as the first and second antennas.

Thus, as is quite clear from the above Sehr fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. In

fact, Sehr suffers from some of the same deficiencies as Miyashita relative to the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims. Accordingly, combining the teachings of the Miyashita and Sehr in the manner suggested by the Examiner in the Office Action still fails to teach or suggest the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims.

The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the references utilized in the rejection of claims 5, 6, 8-11 and 14-19.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 20-32 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 20-32 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.40214X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120